

a pendulum assembly coupled to said support plate.

8. (Twice Amended) A vibration isolator, comprising:

a housing that has an inner non-circular seat;

a support plate that can move in an axial direction, said support plate moves in a rotational direction relative to said housing when unseated from said housing and does not rotate when seated in said housing;

a piston that has a non-circular outer surface; and,

a cable coupled to said piston and said support plate.

14. (Twice Amended) A vibration isolator, comprising:

a housing that has outer alignment means;

a support plate that has means for seating said support plate with said outer alignment means of said housing and can move in an axial direction, said support plate moves in a rotational direction relative to said housing when unseated from said housing and does not rotate when seated in said housing; and,

a pendulum assembly coupled to said support plate.

20. (Twice Amended) A vibration isolator, comprising:

a housing that has inner alignment means;

a support plate that can move in both an axial and rotational direction relative to said housing;

a piston that has alignment means for seating said piston with said inner alignment means of said housing and can move in an axial direction, said piston moves in a rotational direction when unseated from said housing and does not rotate when seated in said housing; and,

a cable coupled to said piston and said support plate.

25. (Twice Amended) A method for aligning a support plate of a pneumatic vibration isolator, comprising:

releasing a fluid from a housing of a vibration isolator such that a support plate becomes seated within a non-circular seat of the housing and cannot rotate, the support plate being coupled to a pendulum assembly, the support plate being capable of movement in both an axial, and rotational direction when unseated from said housing.

The applicant has attached an edited version of the amended claims as an Appendix.

Please cancel claims 27 and 28.

Remarks

The Examiner rejected claims 1-26 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The applicant has amended the claims to clearly recite non-rotation when seated within a housing. The applicant therefore submits that the claims now comply with the first paragraph of §112.

The Examiner rejected claims 14-18 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Houghton. Both independent claims 14 and 20 recite means for seating a support plate or piston within a housing, respectively. Means clauses should be interpreted to cover corresponding structure disclosed in the specification and equivalence thereof. The corresponding structure for the means in these claims is the non-circular shoulders shown in the drawings and discussed in the specification. Houghton does not disclose the non-circular shoulders. Additionally, the circular shoulders of Houghton are clearly not equivalent to the